Examiner's Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to claims 1-27, the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests in the claimed combination, decomposing each frame into multiple bands and partitioning each band of each extended reference frame into multiple range blocks and domain blocks, each range block being predicted by a domain block.

Kim et al (Fractal Coding of Video Sequence Using Circular Prediction Mapping and Noncontractive Interframe Mapping", IEEE XP-000742981, Vol. 7, No. 4, April 1998) disclose fractal coding of a video signal using circular predictive mapping (CPM) by receiving a series of image frames (F_k) with four frames encoded as a coding group. The claimed filtering of each image frame to produce an extended reference frame corresponding to each image frame, the extended reference frames together comprising a group of frames arranged in a circularly-referential structure, reads on the Kim et al disclosure that in CPM, four frames are encoded as a coding group and each frame is predicted blockwise from four-circularly previous claims as seen in Fig. 1. However, Kim et al do not disclose, nor is it suggested, decomposing each frame into multiple bands and partitioning each band of each extended reference frame into multiple range blocks and domain blocks, each range block being predicted by a domain block of the circularly previous extended reference frame in the group of frames. Rather, Kim et al disclose partitioning the kth frame F_k into range blocks, each range block R_i in F_k being approximated (predicted) by a domain block $D_{a(i)}$.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Cited Art

The art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott A Rogers whose telephone number is 571-272-7467. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday 8:00am-5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Coles can be reached at 571-272-7402.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to TC2600 Customer Service at 571-272-2600. Official correspondence by facsimile should be sent to 571-273-8300. The USPTO Customer Service Center phone number is 800-PTO(786)-9199 or 571-272-1000.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Scott A Rogers/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625
6 June 2010